

Historic Resources

Premier recognizes the historical significance of certain portions of the property and plans to work closely with York County and John V. Quarstein, a local historian, to determine the best overall course that reasonably and appropriately addresses these sites, but still allows the first class retail project to be a success. As such, the below sites will be addressed in the following manner (see Historic Resource Plan C1.2):

44YO385 – Burwell's Mill Complex

As recommended by York County and JRIA, the area containing Burwell's Mill will be left undisturbed by development activity and will be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, Premier intends to provide public access to this location – which will require necessary VDOT / FHWA approval for an additional access break off the proposed North Access Road – so that citizens are able to interpret the importance of the site. A Virginia Civil War Trails ("VCWT") style area will be provided and signage will be installed which will interpret the site. Finally, Premier intends to place a Virginia Department of Historic Resources ("VDHR") Conservation Easement protecting this historic property on this location and will donate the land to a suitable non-profit organization. These actions will secure this national register property for future generations.

44YO1026 – old Williamsburg – Yorktown Road

As recommended by JRIA, a 900-foot section of this historic road trace will be preserved in place for the enjoyment of citizens and, if appropriate, will be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. This action will preserve not only one-third (1/3) of this road trace within the Premier property, but also the viewshed from the Civil War earthwork looking down the road to King's Creek. This location will be accessed by the VCWT area mentioned above and additional signage shall be placed interpreting the roads significance. It is intended for the VDHR Conservation Easement created for Burwell's Mill Complex to encompass the historic road. Finally, the feature will be included as part of the donation area mentioned above on behalf of a suitable non-profit organization.

44YO394 – Multi-component site #1

As recommended by JRIA, the majority of this site will be preserved in place and will be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. This majority of this site is also thought to be part and parcel to the VDHR Conservation Easement of Burwell's Mill Complex and included with the donation of sites 44YO385 and 44YO1026. The site will be accessed by the VCWT pedestrian area mentioned above and additional signage will be placed which will reference the particular components identified in this area.

The small, western-most area of this location will be disturbed and it is the recommendation of Premier that a Phase III Archaeological Evaluation be performed to recover artifacts prior to development activity. The small area cannot be avoided due to the necessary location of the North Access Road and limiting effects of adjacent Resource Protection Area.

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44YO396 – Multi-component site #2

There are two (2) components to this location; 1.) Lithic Reduction Component, and 2.) Possible Slave Quarter Component.

Although Premier Properties has taken every effort feasible to foster the preservation and interpretation of visible historic features, this archaeological resource does not offer an opportunity for the public to interact with a historic site like the aforementioned historic mill site and Civil War earthwork. Of the two historic components of this large, yet undefined site, the Lithic Reduction Component does not warrant further study. The possible Slave Quarter Component, however, offers a valuable opportunity to explore this site. Premier will perform a Phase III data recovery to mitigate this area prior to disturbance. Once this work has been completed, Premier will exhibit and interpret these artifacts in an adjacent building. Even though this site will be used for parking, a section will be designated as a 'park area' with landscaping, special surface treatment, benches and interpretative signs. Since this site does not have any visible aspects and the archaeological recovery will primarily yield information and artifacts, Premier believes this is the most effective method of sharing this history with the public